

is fairly well accepted in the law, Senator Haberman. And you're right, it is open to interpretation, but it is fairly oft used.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I notice that the legislation...I have some more questions, Senator Ashford. Now this legislation, this amendment has a felony and a misdemeanor. Can they be plea bargained?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Sure.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Can they be reduced, the felony? It says here that...

SENATOR ASHFORD: Yes, sir.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...guilty of a Class IV felony, can that be reduced?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Yes, sir.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Can they put them on probation?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Yes, sir.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Is that, in your opinion, rather...no, that's all, Senator Ashford, thank you.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you.

SENATOR HABERMAN: What we have here is a legislation or amendment that muddies the water, it muddies the water what the bill is trying to do, what we're trying to do, what anybody is trying to do. We say Class IV felony, we're going to get those bad people. The courts, the prosecuting attorney and the defense attorney could all get in that little room and they can all chew on this and discuss it and they could reduce it. Doesn't mean anything. Then we come down and say, well, if you're not so bad, you're really not a bad guy, we're going to get you for a misdemeanor, a woman or a person. The same thing can happen. They can plea bargain, they can reduce the crime, they can put them on probation, so what does it mean? It doesn't mean too much. In Senator Ashford's eyes he said that it means leaving a loaded gun laying around. Senator Ashford expounded on all the crime that is in Omaha, that it's terrible,